

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 298307

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, SGEN, BR

SUBJECT: INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

REF: BRASILIA 10137 AND 10138

EDWARD DELAROSA OF INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION, REQUESTED THAT DEPARTMENT FORWARD FOLLOWING MEMORANDUM TO EMBASSY.

QUOTE: BILL DYAL, PRESIDENT OF IAF AND EDWARD DELAROSA, REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR BRAZIL, PARAGUAY, URUGUAY, AND ARGENTINA, VISITED WITH ALVARO GURGEL DE ALENCAR, DIRECTOR OF SUBIN IN AUGUST 1977. MR. ALENCAR HAD JUST ASSUMED HIS OFFICE AND WE BRIEFED HIM ON THE IAF. THE CONVERSATION WAS AMIABLE AND WE WERE IMPRESSED THAT MR. ALENCAR HAD READ THE LITERATURE ON THE FOUNDATION. THE ENTIRE CONVERSATION WAS CONDUCTED IN ENGLISH. MR. CONFIDENTIAL

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ALENCAR DID RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT IAF-SUPPORTED BLACK PROJECTS AND WE EXPLAINED TO HIM WHY WE HAD APPROVED PROJECTS FOR BLACK GROUPS UP TO THAT TIME. THE IAF NEVER AGREED TO NOR WAS THE TOPIC OF PRIOR APPROVAL OF ANY PROJECT OR GROUP OF PROJECTS EVER DISCUSSED WITH MR. ALENCAR. SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS OF OTHER LATIN AMERICAN/ CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES HAVE SUGGESTED HAVING PRIOR APPROVAL

BUT TO DATE WE HAVE NOT SO FUNCTIONED AND WOULD CHOOSE NOT TO WORK IN THOSE COUNTRIES WHERE THE PRIOR APPROVAL CONDITION WAS LEVIED ON THE FOUNDATION.

THE AFOREMENTIONED CONVERSATION WITH ALENCAR WAS DISCUSSED WITH AMBASSADOR CRIMMINS AT THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE AND THE IAF REPRESENTATIVES TERMED IT AS AMONG THE BEST CONVERSATIONS EVER HELD WITH A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL OF A LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRY. IAF COMMITMENT TO ALENCAR WAS TWO-FOLD: 1) HE ASKED THAT WE CHANNEL PROJECTS IAF COULD NOT OR WOULD NOT FUND TO HIS ATTENTION FOR POSSIBLE SUBIN FUNDING. HE WAS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN PROJECTS DEALING WITH INTERMEDIATE OR APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY; 2) HE ASKED FOR A MEETING OF IAF STAFF WORKING IN BRAZIL WHENEVER THAT WAS POSSIBLE. WE AGREED TO DO BOTH THINGS AND WILL HONOR THAT REQUEST.

AS THE MEETING WAS SO AMICABLE AND NO CHANGES IN IAF POLICY OR OF IAF RELATIONSHIP TO GOB OR SUBIN WERE DISCUSSED, IAF SAW NO REASON TO SEND MR. ALENCAR A LETTER STATING THE ESSENCE OF THE CONVERSATION. WE REGRET PROPOSED ACTION BY GOB BUT UNDERSTAND THEIR RIGHT TO TAKE SUCH ACTION. YOUR COUNSEL WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. IAF REPRESENTATIVES COULD BE SENT TO BRASILIA AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR IF NECESSARY. BILL DYAL, PRESIDENT, INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION. UNQUOTE. CHRISTOPHER
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